

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4, 5, and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A variable optical delay line comprising:
a plurality of fibers, each fiber having a first end disposed in a first linear array and a second end disposed in a second linear array, each fiber comprising a first parallel region, a curved region, and a second parallel ~~region~~; region, wherein the first parallel regions of the fibers are parallel to each other, the second parallel regions of the fibers are parallel to each ~~other~~ other, and the curved regions of respective fibers ~~differing~~ differ in radii of curvature to provide a series of monotonically differing path lengths; and
an optical switch for switching at least one optical input signal among the fibers of the plurality,
wherein each fiber includes a plurality of separately switchable reflectors that are switchable between reflection and transmission to provide coarse delay increments.

2. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the optical switch comprises a MEMs mirror optical switch.

3. (Currently Amended) The delay line of claim 1 wherein ~~the at least one reflective element comprises~~ each fiber includes a reflective Bragg grating.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The delay line of ~~claim 5 wherein a~~ claim 3 ~~wherein the reflective element in each path comprises a Bragg grating is~~ formed in the second parallel region.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the ~~plurality of optical fiber paths comprise a plurality of optical fibers~~ are secured to a substrate of sheet material.

9. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal is one optical input signal and the optical switch comprises a 1XN MEMs mirror optical switch.

10. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal comprises a plurality of optical input signals and the optical switch comprises on NXN MEMs mirror optical switch.

11. (Original) The delay line of claim 1 wherein the at least one optical input signal comprises a plurality of optical input signals having respectively different wavelengths.